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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
EXAMINING GROUP: (1700)

Patent  
Case No.: 53786US012

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RECEIVED  
JUL 16 2003  
GROUP 1700

First Named Inventor: GEHLSSEN, MARK D.  
Application No.: 09/714658      Group Art Unit: 1771  
Filed: November 16, 2000      Examiner: Chang, Victor S.  
Title: ARTICLES THAT INCLUDE A POLYMER FOAM AND METHOD  
FOR PREPARING SAME

Do not enter

Victor

7/24/03

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:	
July 8, 2003	
Date	
Signed by: Sharon L. Andrew	

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed on May 8, 2003, Applicants provide the following Amendment and Response. Please amend the application as follows:

In the claims:

1. (Amended twice) A foam article comprising a polymer foam, said polymer foam having at least one of its major surfaces smooth to an Ra value less than about 75 micrometers, as measured by laser triangulation profilometry, said polymer foam being smooth without being bonded to an additional layer,

said polymer foam comprising a homogeneous distribution of a plurality of thermoplastic expandable polymeric microspheres,  
wherein said plurality of expandable polymeric microspheres are at least partially expanded.

57. (Amended once) The foam article according to claim 1, further comprising at least one layer comprising a polymer composition, said layer bonded to said polymer foam.